

# Why did they call them Khawarij?

## Thirty characteristics of the Khawaarij applicable to ISIS

By Sheikh

**Dr.Abdullah bin Muhammad Al Muhaisini**

(May Allah protect him)

This speech was delivered on Friday, the 6th of Muharram in the year 1437 H. in the city of Idlib of glory

كتائب ردع الخوارج

KATAIB RAD3 ALKHAWARIJ

i

# Why did they call them Khawaarij؟

Thirty characteristics of the Khawaarij applicable to ISIS

**By Sheikh**

**Dr. Abdullah bin Muhammad Al Muhaisini**

(May Allah protect him)

This speech was delivered on Friday, the 6th of Muharram in the year 1437 H. in the city of Idlib of glory

كتائب ردع الخوارج

KATAIB RAD3 ALKHAWARIJ

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

All praise be to Allah, the Lord of all that exists, and prayers and peace be upon Muhammad, may the blessings of Allah be upon him and his family and his companions, all of them.

Greetings to all the brothers. I ask Allah by His beautiful names and His superior attributes that just as He has gathered me and you in this mosque, that He gather me and you in the paradise of joy. Say Ameen...!

Oh Allah! Gather us in the gardens of joy, Oh Allah, gather us with the Prophets and the truthful ones and the martyrs! Oh Allah, the Lord of all that exists, do not deprive us of the reward of those who do Ribaat guarding the frontiers! Oh Allah, make us among those who give victory to Jihad in your path, Oh the one who is the Most Glorious and Majestic!

My talk today dear brothers in this important lecture, and in this critical time is about the most crucial subject in the field of Jihad in Shaam. Rather on the most crucial subject that the Islamic Ummah and the fields of Jihad are passing by. My talk is about the group so called as 'Islamic State', about this lengthy discussion and these lengthy disputes surrounding this catastrophe. A lot of times, the people ask "Why do we dispute with the Islamic State? We are wishing for "Laa ilaha illa Allah" (None deserves to be worshipped except Allah), and we are wishing for the Khilafa. Have they not declared the Khilafa? So why do we disagree with the Khilafa?" Accordingly, the people ask why don't we make reconciliation with them and fight the enemies of Allah?!

The people ask as to why do we say that they are Khawaarij, while the term Khawaarij is a serious term in Islam?

I hope brothers, that I give an answer today, and we hope that our voice from this town reaches our brothers who are in every part of the world. Dear brothers, indeed giving description for any Muslim with a description which is from the religion of Allah is not to be made merely based on a dispute or a disagreement. Indeed the descriptions that have come in the Shareeah such as you describing someone to be a Kaafir, or so and so to be a Murthad (apostate), or so and so to be a Shabbeeh (thug), or so and so to be a Khaariji is a

grave term in the religion of Allah, glory be to Him Most High. The Muslims must not show boldness to embark upon it, and he must leave it for the scholars to whom Allah has entrusted with this. Otherwise, the one who embarks upon it will be questioned in front of Allah glory be to Him Most High. Due to this the Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, says, "Whoever says to his brother "oh Kaafir", then it has surely settled upon one of them in the sight of Allah glory be to Him Most High". So the issue is a critical one. When I come to a certain person and say to him "Oh so and so, you have become a Kaafir", then the matter will surely end up being either of the two cases:

- That he becomes a Kaafir in the sight of Allah
- Or that it comes back upon me... We ask Allah for safety and well being.

Due to this, the Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said "No Muslims says to a Muslim "oh Kaafir" except that it has come back upon him, if the other person was not so". Come dear brothers, let us examine in this blessed mosque and this excellent gathering in this great day by this blessed and excellent discussion to look at the word "Khawaarij" which the Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, has stated. And let us see does this term apply to this group "ISIS"? If it applies to them, then we will say that they are Khawaarij, and if it does not apply to them, and we seek refuge in Allah, then we will not say except what Allah and what His messenger, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, has said. Dear brothers, indeed the term "Khawaarij" and the word "Khawaarij" is not a new word. The first person who said the word "Khawaarij", who was he?

He is the messenger of Allah, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, as it has come in the Hadith of Jaabir, may Allah be pleased with him, when the Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, "The Khawaarij are the dogs of the hell fire" and he repeated it thrice, that the Khawaarij are the dogs of the hellfire, the Khawaarij are the dogs of the hellfire, and then he said, "They are the worst creature in the sight of Allah". And in another narration, "It is they for whom is the hellfire". Come, let us see what are the characteristics which the messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, has laid down for the Khawaarij..

First of all, dear brothers, I have collected for you in this simplified research, in this lecture, around thirty characteristics of the Khawaarij. And we will now together see as to whether they are applicable to ISIS or not. But before that, I say that the scholars of Islam have agreed in the books that talk about sects, religions and creed, that every group has two types of characteristics - I want you dear brothers to understand very well what is being said here....

Every group has two types of characteristics. Characteristics that are foundational to it, that is, fundamental characteristics. And characteristics that are general or common in them. For example, when you say to a person, Faisal or Khalid from amongst the people, you say that he is a "Shabbeeh" (thug), the fundamental characteristic in him is that he works with the government (of Bashar). But there are other general characteristics. You say that so and so, "Khalid" is a Shabbeeh, his colour is white or is blond and his shape is such and such... is quick tempered and so on and so forth.... of such descriptions. These descriptions are not the fundamental characteristics for which you have described him to be Shabbeeh. The fundamental characteristic, what is it?

It is that he works with the government. Similarly, when we come to the characteristics of the Khawaarij, there are two basic fundamental characteristics, whoever does that, then he is a Khaariji, and whoever does not do that, then he is not so. And there are characteristics which the scholars have mentioned so that the one who does not comprehend, may be able to comprehend through the general or common characteristics in them.

That is why for example, the Raafidha, anyone who slanders the Sahaba, may Allah be pleased with them, is a Raafidhi. But there are other characteristics which you may consider to be either general or common but not fundamental. For example, the Raafidah believe in the Mut'ah (temporary marriage for enjoyment), may Allah preserve you, but if one Raafidhi comes and says, "I do not believe in the Mut'ah", do we then say that "because you do not believe in Mut'ah, then you are not a Raafidhi"? No. Rather we say, "since you have slandered the Sahabah, then you are from the Raafidha". And I ask Allah that He curse all those who cursed our mother Ayisha, may Allah be pleased with her, and to curse all those who curse Abu Bakr, Umar, Ali and Uthman, may Allah be pleased with all of them.

So then dear brothers,

The first characteristic: - From amongst the characteristics of the Khawaarij is that they kill the Muslims and they kill in the name of apostasy. You find that the Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, says in the Hadith that is agreed upon, (by Bukhari and Muslim), "The Khawaarij will kill the Muslims". Imam Ahmed may Allah have mercy on him says, "As for the Khawaarij, they have left the religion and unsheathed their swords on the Ummah and considered their blood and their wealth as permissible (to be violated)". And Ibn Taymiyyah, the Imam of the people of Shaam and the Imam of Ahlu Sunnah, says "The Khawaarij consider the blood of the people of the Qiblah to be permissible due to a belief that they are apostates". Does ISIS have this characteristic or not?!

Because of this they consider the one who is speaking to you today to be an apostate even if we pray and fast. They consider your brothers in Jabhat un Nusrah to be apostates even if they do Jihad for the sake of Allah. They consider your brothers in Ahrah u Shaam to be apostates. They consider Jaysh ul Fatheh to be an army of apostasy. They consider Idlib to be originally a land of Kufr and not a land of Islam, and they consider Aleppo to be similar to that. And this statement is not a strange one but it is something that everyone knows.

Due to that, this first characteristic is to declare the Muslims as Kaafirs. Do we declare them to be Kaafirs? No. We do not declare them to be Kaafirs. Why? Because the matter is not such that when I differ with someone and he says to me "Oh Kaafir", then I say to him, "And you oh Kaafir"... No... There are nullifiers of Islam that we have to apply. The matter is not of a dispute, and there is no dispute between us and them. But the fact of the matter is that your speaker, by Allah other than whom there is no other God, I strived for six months to reconcile between them and the people, and they used to consider your speaker to be one of the Sheikhs and scholars. And when blood was spilled and I criticised them, they said "You are apostates". So then this first characteristic is that they kill the Muslims.

Their second characteristic is that, they declare the Muslims to be disbelievers- They make Takfeer on the Muslims. Do they make Takfeer on the Muslim Mujahideen or not?!

I am asking you brothers, do they make Takfeer or not? And oh brothers, we today want to give a talk..., a talk and a discussion... I mean the issue is open, this is religion. If you differ in any issue, ask...Raise your hands...and say "well my brother, they do not make Takfeer on the Mujahideen". So then, do they make Takfeer on the Mujahideen today? Yes. And they label them with apostasy. Rather they even label the one under whom they were during a period of time....they were under the umbrella of Sheikh Ayman Al Zawahiri, may Allah protect him, the Imam of Jihad, today they describe him to be a fool, and a donkey of dirt. And similarly, they label their scholars with that, and they similarly label the Mujahideen in Afghanistan who humiliated Russia..., Russia who is fighting us today, who is the first one who humiliated them? Is it not Afghanistan?! And we will by the will of Allah, humiliate them. The ones who first forced Russia's nose on the ground are our brothers the Taliban in Afghanistan. And today they are releasing a book with the title, "Clarification regarding the statement on the apostasy of Taliban". We ask Allah for safety and well being.

The third characteristic is one that is not from the fundamental characteritics. So then the two fundamental characteristics are, to make Takfeer on the Mujahideen and the Muslims, and second, killing the Muslims unjustly. I am not saying about Takfeer as a whole, dear brothers. No... Takfeer is from the religion of Allah, Takfeer is from the fundamentals of Islam, but Takfeer on whom? Takfeer on the Kaafir who has fallen into one of the nullifiers of Islam based on a clear proof from the Shareeah. The third characteristic... I will read their characteristics quickly so that I do not make them too long for you, by the permission of Allah the Lord of the worlds, because this lecture as you know, is a public lecture.

The third characteristic - It is that the Khawaarij throughout the history - look now we have passed by one thousand four hundred years..., the majority of them would be young in age and with foolish dreams. It is not a problem that there are young ones amongst the Mujahideen, but the problem is when the leaders of Jihad or the leaders of the particular group are people with foolish dreams thinking foolishly, to the extent that one of them said to me, "fighting you is more important than fighting the regime". So I asked "what is the reason?" And he said, "because you are apostates whereas the regime is a basic Kaafir". Is this not foolishness? Yes, by Allah, it is

from the greatest types of foolishness. We ask Allah for safety and well being.

Let us assume that Jabhat un Nusrah and Jayshul Fatheh are apostates. Let us assume that the Mujahideen are all apostates...It is in fact foolishness to fight them. Fight the regime first, and then after that look for them. Stop the barrel bombs of death that are falling on the weak and after that make Takfeer on whomever you want and do whatever you want. It is foolishness to come and fight against the Mujahideen whenever they kill those from the regime... When the Mujahideen reached Jisr ash Shughour, you all remember, they cut off the oil, and entered inside and began advancing from the side of Mareh. Look at another action carried out today.., when the Russians intervene, they must abstain and stop because of Russia and because of Iran. You find that Russia is intervening whereas they are taking the infantry school and taking over what is around it. Glory be to Allah! Is this not one of the greatest characteristics of foolishness? Yes, by Allah.

The fourth characteristic - Righteous appearance. Glory be to Allah!! That is why the Hadith mentioning the Khawaarij needs to be pondered upon. Why did the Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon, mention ten Hadiths that has come in Bukhari and Muslim about the Khawaarij? Because the issue needs to be made distinct. The common people say, "Oh brother, a person who has a beard and does Jihad or fights, how can I fear?" That is why the matter must be referred back to the scholars. Imam Al Aajiri, may Allah have mercy on him, says "The one has seen the striving of a Khaariji must not be deceived by their reciting of the Quran or the length of their standing in prayer, or the abundance of their fasting, or their beautiful speech if he follows the way of the Khawaarij", meaning if he has been killing the Muslims and declaring them to be Kaafirs. We ask Allah for safety and well being.

Now, some people are saying, "How can I say Khawaarij?!... Oh brother, amongst them there are Muhajireen, there are righteous ones, and there are such and such..." And what does it mean?

The one who kills the Muslims unjustly and declares them to be Kaafirs unjustly cannot benefit from his righteousness. Because of that, the Khawaarij killed those of the Sahabah, they killed Khabbab and Ali may Allah be pleased with him...., the fourth

Khalifa... Who killed him? The Khawaarij killed him. Ibn Muljim, the one who killed Ali may Allah be pleased with him, when they wanted to execute him after he killed Ali..., imagine the Imam of the Muslims Ali may Allah be pleased with him.., when they wanted to kill Ibn Muljim, he began to weep. They asked, "why are you weeping?" He said "I am weeping for my tongue which continuously mentions Allah, and now it is being stopped from making the mention of Allah". But nice words are of no benefit if you have killed the Muslims and made Takfeer on them!!

That is why Ibn Kathir, may Allah have mercy on him, says regarding the statement of Allah - listen to this great verse - "Say, "Shall I inform you who will be the greatest losers in their works?" The people who are the greatest losers are, "Those whose efforts have been wasted in this life, while they..." in the hearts, "they thought that they were acquiring good by their works"... He thinks that he is a Mujahid, he thinks that he will bring back the Khilafa, he thinks that he is doing good by his works. Ibn Kathir says, "I believe that this verse is regarding the Khawaarij" as he thinks that he is upon the truth, and he is being truthful in front of Allah but unfortunately he kills and sheds the blood of the Muslims and makes Takfeer on them. Look at the outward righteousness, is it present in them or not?! It is present. So then we will go to the next characteristic.

The fifth characteristic - The Khawaarij understand the Quran in a wrong manner, and they take the verses that were revealed about the Kuffar and apply them over the Muslims. I will give you an example. Today Baghdadi's group read the statement of Allah "Fight the disbelievers who are near you" and they indicate it to mean the Muslims.

So then these are verses revealed regarding the disbelievers which they applied on the believers. One of them says "You have disbelieved because you have allied with so and so who is a disbeliever"... they mean the Mujahid in the path of Allah. So they look at the verses regarding the Kuffar and they implement them on the Muslims. Look at what Ibn Umar, may Allah be pleased with him, says - "The Khawaarij are the worst of creation in the sight of Allah. They go towards the verses that were revealed about the Kuffar and they apply them on the Muslims". Is this present in ISIS or not?!

It is present. So then we come to the issue that comes after it. Ibn Umar, may Allah be pleased with him, says regarding the Khawaarij, "The Khawaarij are the worst of Allah's creation, glory be to Him Most High. They went to the Muslims and declared them to be disbelievers, and they killed them, and they would even go to the wife of a man, and then one of the Khawaarij would marry her claiming that her husband is a Kaafir". Is this taking place or not?! It is taking place. By Allah, it is taking place. And I know many of the Mujahideen who would weep and say "My wife has gone to them. She thinks it is a Khilafa. And they would say "your husband is an apostate" and then they would marry her". Glory be to Allah!! Ibn Umar says this statement before when? Before one thousand four hundred years. And today it is being repeated. This is the fifth characteristic.

The sixth characteristic - The scholars say "The Khawaarij take the initiative in fighting against the Muslims. Ibn Taymiyya may Allah have mercy on him, says about the Khawaarij "The Sahabah and the scholars after them have agreed on fighting against the Khawaarij, as they are Bughaat (rebellious people) and they transgress against all the Muslims except those who agree with them, and they initiate fighting against the Muslims. And their evil cannot be repelled except by fighting" (Minhaaju Sunnah AnNabawiyya)

Listen to the speech of Adnani some days back. He says "we will divide the groups, and we will split their rows, and kill the organizations, and we will do this, and we will do that..."

We say, "Let's assume that we have transgressed upon you Oh "state". But what is the sin of our brothers, the lions of Yemen when they are fighting in the path of Allah, and you go there and you split the rows of the Mujahideen in Yemen, and you go to Somalia and you split the their rows, and you go to Libya and elsewhere?"

So these are also from their characteristics. Look after that, the scholars say "The Khawaarij strive hard in killing every Muslim who does not agree with them". Ibn Taymiyya may Allah have mercy on him, says "The Khawaarij are more harmful for the Muslims than others. And there has been no one more harmful for the Muslims than them, neither the Jews nor the Christians, since the Khawaarij strive hard in killing every Muslim who does not agree with them". When anyone gets killed while been lined up in the rows between the

Khawaarij and the Mujahideen, it would be said "maybe he got killed while in the rows", but don't you see that the explosives reach Salqin and Sarmada and to such and such place... from Aleppo and elsewhere...? Is this not striving hard in killing Muslims? Oh my brothers, so then they strive hard in killing the Muslims and not merely fight them. Ask the Mujahideen and the Muslims have been martyred through their explosives. Ask Abu Khalid Suri may Allah accept him and other scholars of Jihad who have been killed at their hands.

The seventh characteristic - The Khawaarij seek the verses that are of "Muthashaabih" type and turn away from those that are "Muhkam". The religion of Allah, my dear brothers, the Quran and the Sunnah are of two types - The Muhkam and the Muthashaabih. The Muhkam is that statement which is clear. When Allah glory be to Him says, "Whoever kills a believer intentionally - his reward is Hell, wherein he will abide eternally, and Allah has become angry with him and has cursed him and has prepared for him a great punishment". This verse is clear in the prohibition of killing Muslims, and that the one who kills a believer unjustly will be punished with hellfire. They abandon the verses that are clear in prohibiting the killing of Muslims and they come to the Hadiths which are Muthashaabih. He comes and says, "We will be coming to the fields of Dabiq" and they come with Hadiths of the Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, regarding the fields of Dabiq and they say "these Hadiths speak about us". These Hadiths are called as Muthashaabih. Why?! Because the field of Dabiq today can be in the hands of any one group and there can come tomorrow another battle and it will then be under another group. And two years back, the field of Dabiq was in the hands of the Syrian Nusayri regime. So then like this, is it reasonable for you to know the truth based upon the field of Dabiq?! So the one who takes the fields of Dabiq is upon truth and the one who does not take it is upon falsehood?! No..!! This is Muthashaabih. You must know the truth based on what Allah and His Messenger said. Look at the eastern Ghoutha today for example. The Prophet may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said "The camp of the Muslims on the day of Malhamah (the great battle) will be in Al Ghoutha". Will it be reasonable for you to say that the one who takes Ghoutha is the one who is upon the truth, and the one who does not take it is upon falsehood? These Hadiths are called as

Muthashaabih. Similarly, they are today depending upon the Muthashaabih and abandoning the Muhkam. Ibn Taymiyyah may Allah have mercy on him, says "And similarly the people of Bid'ah (innovation) from amongst those who express belief in the message, got confused regarding some of what these people got confused about and they followed the Muthashaabih and left the Muhkam like the Khawaarij"... Come, after that, my brothers, to what is next.

The eighth characteristic - The Khawaarij insult the scholars and the people of knowledge and merit. This is present since when? Since the time of the Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, until today. The first Khaariji Dhul Khuwaisira, who did he insult?

It was the Messenger of Allah, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. Who is the most knowledgeable man, and the Imam of knowledge and Taqwa? It is the Messenger of Allah, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. This Khaariji came to the Messenger of Allah, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, and said "fear Allah!". He did not even say, "Oh Messenger of Allah, fear Allah!". He said "Oh Muhammad, be just!". So the Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said "Woe to you, if I don't be just, then who will be just?" Umar said "Shall I kill him, Oh Messenger of Allah?". He said "No". He then said, "From the progeny of this man there will come out - meaning, a lot of Khawaarij will come, they will come out from their offspring - people whose prayer and fasting will make your prayer and fasting seem insignificant..." He then mentioned the Hadith.

So then, from amongst the characteristics of the Khawaarij is to insult the people of knowledge. Ibn Abbas, may Allah be pleased with him, came to them to debate with them... Imagine..! A companion from amongst the companions of the Messenger of Allah, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, whereas they (the Khawaarij) are not from the companions. The Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, glorified the companions and said, "Do not revile my companions. If one of you were to spend the equivalent of the mount of Uhud in gold, he would not reach a Mudd (a small measure) of theirs or even half of it". Ibn Abbas goes to the Khawaarij and says to them, "I have come to you from the best of the people - ie. I have come from the companions- and not a single one of them is amongst you", meaning there is not a single companion

amongst you. And they would say "Ibn Abbas reads the Quran but does not understand it". Allah is the greatest..! Ibn Abbas reads the Quran but does not understand it..!? Ibn Abbas is the interpreter of the Quran. The man who knows the Quran the most is Ibn Abbas. And they insult Ibn Abbas and say "Ibn Abbas does not understand the Quran". But listen to what the Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said "Then there will come people who will read the Quran and then say "we have read the Quran, so who has read it more than us? And who is more knowledgeable than us?"... So then from the characteristics of the Khawaarij is that - they would not need the scholars and they would not need the righteous ones and the reformers. Listen to the latest speech of Adnani, what does he say in it? He says these words, "As for us we have brought down the symbols and brought down these idols", ie. the scholars, and then says that "these, ie. the scholars, are donkeys of dirt". Glory be to Allah!! Just like the Khawaarij of the past said. The Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said that they will say "we have read the Quran, so who is more knowledgeable than us? And who understands more than us". Then the Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, "They are the very people who are the fuel of hell-fire". We ask Allah for safety and well being.

The Khawaarij do not refer to the scholars whereas the people of truth refer to the scholars. So what does Adnani say in his latest speech? He said, "Oh you who are in doubt regarding the state, ask those who have defected and joined the state", meaning the common people, whereas Allah glory be to Him orders us to ask whom? To ask the scholars. That is why Allah says, "Ask the people of knowledge if you do not know". So then, is slandering of the scholars found in them or not? Yes, that is found.

Good...We will come to the statement of the scholars. Imam Ash Shaathibi, may Allah have mercy on him, says in Al I'thisaam, "The origin of the corruption in the Khawarij is that they are the first ones who slandered and cursed the righteous ones of the Salaf, and that is like that until today". Glory be to Allah! This statement which I am mentioning to you my brothers, I am not quoting to you from the scholars of our time. I am quoting from Ibn Taymiyyah, from Shaathibi, from Ibn Hazm, from Ibn Umar, so then the same scene gets repeated throughout the fourteen centuries, and the same story is getting repeated. And then someone comes having doubts

remaining in his mind. Why? Because he has not followed the scholars, may Allah have mercy on them. When Fitna (trial) approaches, no one will know it except the scholars. And when Fitna goes away, the common people will know it. So let us come to the next characteristic.

The tenth characteristic - The Khawaarij do not have scholars of truth who lead them, and they hardly have any book that is depended upon. Sheikhul Islam Ibn Taymiyyah, may Allah have mercy on him says, "The Khawaarij are only known through the statements of the people regarding them. They do not have books nor scholars for them". Ali may Allah be pleased with him, says as mentioned in Tabari "The Khawaarij are not reciters of the Quran nor those who understand the religion, nor scholars of interpretation, and this matter does not have a precedence in Islam" - Tareekh Tabari.

Do the Khawaarij today have the major well known scholars with them? I am amazed, by Allah...!! You do not find a single scholar from amongst the well-known scholars being with them. They only bring some youth who are new to knowledge and they magnify them and elevate them.

Where are the scholars?! Will the scholars of the Ummah have consensus in fighting against the Khilafa?!! Glory be to Allah!! One of their most outstanding characteristics is that they do not have scholars with them, rather, not even the scholars whose books this Khawaarij ISIS used to distribute. You will find that they used to distribute the book of Sheikh Abu Qatadah Al Filastini may Allah preserve him, and then after some days when he would oppose them, they would defame him and slander him. And then after that they would distribute the book of so and so. And every one who opposes them, they would immediately defame him. And they would say "You are not from the people of knowledge". And when there remained no scholars with them, Adnani came out saying "We have praise be to Allah, headed towards the Khilafa, and we have put down the symbols and scholars", for him not to be embarrassed and to be told "Where are the scholars? How can you go towards Allah without the people of knowledge and Allah says, "Ask the people of knowledge if you do not know"?

So let us come to the next characteristic.

Listen to this astonishing characteristic –

The eleventh characteristic - The Khawaarij name their land as Darul Islam and the other lands as Darul Kufr in which the Shareeah is not applied. Is this not found in ISIS?! Yes, it is found. Read today their books and read the speeches of their spokesman Adnani. He says "So join the Darul Islam - meaning his land and his state - since the Shareeah is not implemented except in it". So what are we doing here? What are the Mujahideen in every place doing? What are the Mujahideen in Libya and Somalia and Yemen and elsewhere doing? What are the ones who are offering prayers doing? The courts which rule according to the law of Allah, what are they doing? Commanding the right and forbidding the evil, what is that? Glory be to Allah..!! By Allah you would be amazed as to how the Muslim youth lose their minds. But just as the Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said "during those days, the intellect of a lot of people will be taken away". Listen to Ibn Taymiyya may Allah have mercy on him, when he mentioned their minute details, he said "Only the Khawaarij had this since they separated themselves with their leader and their Jamaah (group) and their land, and they named their land as the land of Hijra and the other lands as the land of Kufr and warfare" - *Majmou ul Fataawaa*, volume thirteen.

Is this present or not?! An Imam for them alone, and a land for them alone and the other lands are lands of Kufr. They say join us in Darul Islam... Glory be to Allah..!!

We will go to the next characteristic.

The twelfth characteristic - The Khawaarij group believe in a leader whom they set up and appoint, and name as Ameerul Mumineen. And they make it obligatory to fight those who oppose them. Shahrastani says in *Al Milal Wa Nihal* regarding the Khawaarij, "The innovation of the Khawaarij begins with the issue of Imamah (leadership), so they permit appointing a leader from amongst themselves, and appoint him based on their opinion, and he deals with the people. So if he is a leader who is opposed, then it becomes obligatory to declare war alongside him". And Ibn Taymiyyah says regarding the Khawaarij "they separated themselves from the people with their Imam and their group and their land".

Come after that towards the issue of breaking pledges and covenants. Allah glory be to Him, says "*Those who break the covenant of Allah after contracting it and sever that which Allah has ordered to be joined and cause corruption on earth. It is those who are the losers*". Mus'ab ibn Sa'd may Allah be pleased with him, says "I asked my father who are the ones meant by this verse, and he said, that they are the Harooriyya ie. the Khawaarij. And look at them breaking the covenants and their treachery, you will be astonished. Look at that one who entered Madrasah of Tawheed of Liwa u Tawheed. He entered and said "we have come to you for negotiations", and when they gathered together, he exploded himself. Is this not treachery? Look at the incident at the checkpoint in Ouram. And before one week, by Allah other than whom there is no one worthy of worship, I had visited this man, and he was saying "A man came to us and said "I want to pray with you". If someone comes to you while you are in war from the enemies and said "I will pray with you"... is it possible? You may possibly say "pray with me". He says, "He came to us and said "I want to pray with you". We told him "You are welcome, may Allah prolong your life". So we saw his appearance - look, the general people look at the appearance and get deceived by that- and we said to him "pray with us". And when we gathered he pulled his belt and exploded us". I said, "By Allah, I heard this story but I could not believe it. By Allah other than whom there is no one worthy of worship, I have visited him. His leg has been cut off, or upto toes has been cut off and until now he is not able to walk due to what is missing from his leg. He says that this is what happened to us. Is this not treachery? This is the peak of treachery. We ask Allah for safety and well-being! And there are several proofs for that.

The thirteenth characteristic - The Khawaarij turn against the Muslims by claiming that those other than them do no implement the Shareah of Allah… Glory be to Allah! Throughout the past one thousand four hundred years the same thing gets repeated. They go against the Muslims saying "you do not implement the law of Allah". By Allah, dear brothers, while I am reading these papers and what is in the books of the scholars, I would say "Glory be to Allah! Is Ibn Taymiyyah present with us today?! Is Ibn Hazm or Ali ibn Abi Thaalib present with us today?! They would mention very minute details! Ibn Jareer may Allah have mercy on him and be pleased with him, says

"When Ali was giving a speech, a man from the Khawaarij stood up to him and said "Oh Ali, you have committed Shirk by associating men as partners in the religion of Allah, and you have not applied the laws of Allah and none has the right to judge except Allah". So they all called out from every direction "there is no judgment except that of Allah, there is no judgment except that of Allah". So Ali said "this is a true statement while you intend falsehood with it".

The fourteenth characteristic – Lack of knowledge and prevalence of ignorance. This is one of the characteristics of the Khawaarij throughout history. Ibn Hajar may Allah have mercy on him, says "Indeed when the Khawaarij judged those who oppose them to have fallen into Kufr, and considered their blood permissible (to be spilled) and left alone the Dhimmis (non-Muslims who pay the Jizya in an Islamic state), and said that "we will fulfill the covenant with the Dhimmis" and got engaged in fighting the Muslims – all of these are the results of the worship of the ignorant ones whose chests were not open to the light of knowledge".

The fifteenth characteristic – One of the characteristics of the Khawaarij is that they describe the one who opposes them of having fallen into Irjaa (ie. not making any Takfeer). They say that so and so is from the Murjia just because a scholar opposes them. They say "so and so is from the Murjia"… Glory be to Allah! The scholars have spoken even about this. Imam Ahmed may Allah have mercy on him, says "As for the Khawaarij, they label the Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'ah as Murjia, and the Khawarij have lied by this statement".

The sixteenth characteristic – Self-conceit with the general people being impressed by them. The Prophet may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said "There will be from amongst you people who will carry out acts of worship and be devoted in it until the people would be impressed by them, and they would become self-conceited. They will leave from the religion the way an arrow passes by its target" – Narrated by Imam Ahmed. And this is too clear to require any clarification.

The seventeenth characteristic – From amongst the characteristics of the Khawaarij is that they appear in the Ummah at a time when the Muslims are divided and disunited. They had appeared during the time of Ali when Ali may Allah be pleased with him, differed with Muawiya may Allah be pleased with him. Similarly they have

emerged today in Shaam once again when the factions are in disunity. Due to this the Prophet may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said regarding the Khawaarij that "they will appear at a time when the people are in disunity." – Narrated by Imam al Bukhari.

Imam Nawawi may Allah have mercy on him says, "that is, at a time when the people are disunited, and their disunity was their disagreement which occurred between Ali and Muawiya, may Allah be pleased with them both".

The eighteenth characteristic – From amongst the characteristics of the Khawaarij that they have innovated is them asking the people to state their repentance, and easily removing the people from the religion, to the extent that they today have with them, ie. with the Khilafa of Baghdadi, offices established for expressing repentance, and the timings for it as far as I know in the past, is Sunday and Wednesday. And none of the elderly go to them, or anyone who goes to them wanting to join with them until they ask him to state his repentance. They say to him, "Come, we will ask you to state your repentance from your Kufr". Is this present or not present!? It is present. Similarly it has been present throughout the history, and they did that with Ali may Allah be pleased with him, and they said "Whereas, oh Ali, you have not shown anger for your Lord. You have shown anger for yourself. So if you testify that you are a Kaafir, and agree to repent, then we will agree to deal with you" – Al Bidaaya Wan Nihaaya

When Salahuddin went to them…, Sheikh Salahuddin went to Raqqah and wanted to negotiate with them for a truce, or for a ceasefire or anything, they said "We will not do until these people repent, because these people are apostates". Similarly, they do not accept anybody today going to them until they ask him to state his repentance, and they open the door for showing repentance with them. And this trait has become apparent in them.

The nineteenth characteristic – From amongst the characteristics of the Khawaarij is them taking up controversies, and media, and speeches and misguiding the people. Abul Abbas says "The Khawaarij group had in them quarrels ie. arguments, and contention and plenty of speakers and poets".

Similarly, from amongst their characteristics is to test the people over their religion and their beliefs. Ibrahim ibn al Hussain says, "Testing the people is the religion of the Khawarij" - As Sayr by Az Zahabi - "Muhallab sent for a man from the Khawaarij to enquire from them and he said to them "What do you say about two men who migrated to you and one of them died on the way and you tested the other and he did not pass the test?". The point is that testing the people is from their religion.

Similarly, from the characteristics of the Khawaarij throughout history is that their speech would be beautiful and their deeds would be ugly. The Prophet may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, says regarding the Khawaarij "They will have beautiful speeches but evil actions. They will call to the book of Allah, but they have nothing to do with the book of Allah". Listen to their speeches... The latest speech which is the speech of Adnani..., and I am referring to it because it is just close in time. He says "Oh America, we have come to you... and oh such and such... Stay there oh America... Wait for a while oh America..." And then you look at the ground and you see Marea being destroyed, and you see the infantry school being destroyed and you see killing and destruction. The speech is "Oh America..., oh Russia..., oh Iran..." and you would say "Allaahu Akbar!! Washington has been conquered..! New York has been conquered...!!" and when you get on to the ground, you find them attacking Marea and attacking the infantry school, and today we will go towards Hama. By Allah other than whom there is no other God, we have left them alone, and record this for history. Today the date is ninth of Muharram. The battle has not begun, or it is at its beginning stage. We have left areas held by the regime that is between us and them, and we did not attack those areas of the regime, so that we will not be forced to clash with them, in order for us to take Hama and Damascus. You will remember, that unless Allah glory be to Him covers the field with His mercy, they (ISIS) will surely attack in order to block the road. That is why, their speeches are beautiful but their actions are evil. The Prophet may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, says "During the end of times, there will come people who will speak with words of truth but it will not go beyond their throats". i.e they are mere talk.

From amongst the characteristics of the Khawaarij is that they kill for Maslaha (a bigger benefit). They would kill so and so for a benefit,

even if he is not a Kaafir. He will say, "Kill him oh brother, it has a benefit... Kill him, there is no problem in it". Qathari Bin Al Fujaa', the Khaariji would say, "Killing a man for the benefit of the people is not a sin".

From amongst the characteristics of the Khawaarij is that they do not accept the truth from any source whatsoever, and they do not accept advice. Ibn Kathir says, "This category of people is the most strangest of creatures from the children of Adam. So glory be to Him who diversified His creation as He wished, and has gone ahead in His mighty power. And how good is what some of the Salaf have said regarding the Khawaarij that they are the ones mentioned in the saying of Allah, "Say, "Shall I inform you who will be the greatest losers in their works?!". He said that in Al Bidaaya wan Nihaaya.

From the characteristics of the Khawaarij, and I will finish with these two final characteristics, and hopefully we will publish them in an article for whoever wants to look more into the issue.... From their characteristics is to have "false piety". You find that they show piety in some of the issues, but in some major issues they do not show piety. Look at the Khawaarij of the past. Qays ibn Emaad says that "they set off and they came to Abdullah bin Khabbaab, may Allah be pleased with him, and he was in his village, and he had stepped back and stood away from the Fitna, and then they took him..." He said, "And they saw a fruit that had fallen from a date palm tree" - listen to their piety - "they saw a fruit that fell from a date palm tree and a man from them took it and put it in his mouth and they said to him, "The fruit belongs to the people who have a covenant and the Dhimmis, and you took it without paying!?" So he took out the fruit. And they came over a pig and one of them killed it, and so they went to its owner who was a Christian and they paid him its price. So Khabbab said to them "Shall I not inform you as to who has a greater right upon you than your fruit and this pig?", and he was bound in chains, this companion, may Allah be pleased with him. They said "Yes, go ahead", and he said "By Allah I have not abandoned any Salaah (prayer) after being an adult, nor any fast, nor any Ramadan..." and he said a number of things.... And they brought him forward and killed him."

Today, I read, before the days of Hajj, about them releasing a statement - listen to this false piety - issuing a statement prohibiting

the slaughtering of a sacrificial animal while another sacrificial animal is watching it - and this is from the Sunnah..., and they were issuing a statement saying that any butcher who kills a sacrificial animal in front of another sacrificial animal has gone against the Sunnah - this is piety- but unfortunately when they bring the Mujahideen and kill them in front of all the people, and they don't respect any kinship or agreement, then is the false piety present in them or not?

We will come after that about being abusive during arguments, and about being the furthest of people away from mercy.

From the characteristics of the Khawaarij throughout all times is that they are abusive when they have an argument. And the Prophet may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, as reported by Abu Hurayrah, may Allah be pleased with him, in Bukhari and Muslim, said "The signs of the hypocrite are three...", and he stated that from amongst them is that "when he argues, he becomes abusive". And in some of the books of the Khawaarij like the book "Kashf ul Ghummah" the writer describes Uthman, may Allah be pleased with him, saying that he is a greater Fitna than the Dajjaal. They say about Uthmaan "Verily Uthmaan is a greater Fitna than the Dajjaal" - They say this about Ameer ul Mumineen, Uthmaan, may Allah be pleased with him...!!

And today just because they differed with one of the students of knowledge or a Sheikh, you find it being said that "This man is an agent, and a spy, and an intelligence staff, and one who corrupts, and Sahawat and apostate....", and they put every allegation upon him. Glory be to Allah!! By Allah I am amazed, dear brothers, how do they label the Mujahideen "Sahawaat", while we know that the Sahawaat are those who were setup by America to fight the Mujahideen. How can a Mujahid be from the Sahawaat of America? They (America) come and kill the Mujahideen every day, and Russia comes and kills the Mujahideen, and Iran comes and kills the Mujahideen... How then can some of their foolish ones and their deceived ones be tricked into believing this?

Similarly, they being the furthest of people from mercy, and others - these are almost thirty or twenty five characteristics, I have not counted them, and there are many more which you have seen. And I ask you by Allah, other than whom there is no other God, are these characteristics which I have mentioned and which the scholars have

mentioned, applicable to ISIS or not? You have now seen them here... And due to that dear brothers, I have prepared this lecture since a long time, and I wished for it. And when I saw their latest speech and I knew that they will corrupt our battle, and others, I wanted to proclaim this, so that I will have discharged my duty, and so that on the day I meet Allah glorified and high is He, I would have discharged my duty in the sight of Allah glorified and high is He, towards all of the people of Sham, and for all of the people of the earth.

And I will conclude my brothers, with the saying of some of the people asking "then what is the reason that the people get deceived by them?"

I say just like one of the Salaf has said: "Whoever deceives us in the religion of Allah, we become deceived by him". The people when they hear "Khilafah" and when they hear "Islam" - and we, by Allah, do not fight nor is our blood spilled except for the sake of "there is no God worthy to be worshiped except Allah", and we ask Allah the ever Living and the Sustainer, by His greatest names, that if we have been fighting for other than "there is no God worthy to be worshiped except Allah", then do not give us power over a hand-span of the land Sham. However they deceive the people with this matter. Or some of the people say "Amongst them there are Muhajireen or amongst them there are righteous ones or such others are found amongst them...." We say, "the Khawaarij are originally people who recite the Quran and learn knowledge and read the Book of Allah, glorified and high is He, yet the Prophet may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, named them as the "dogs of the Hellfire" due to their likeness to dogs, ie. due to their frenzy in killing the Muslims. We ask Allah for safety and well-being. And some of them may also be deceived by them because of some mistakes they have seen within the (other) factions..., and we do not say that the factions are infallible. The factions do have many mistakes amongst them, however the issue of killing the Muslims without any right is one of the greatest matters in the religion of Allah.

And that is why the Prophet may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said to Usamah when he killed a Muslim man, "What will you do with "there is no God worthy to be worshiped except Allah" if it comes to you on the day of Judgement?" And the Prophet may

peace and blessings of Allah be upon him said "that the entire world ceasing to exist is less significant to Allah than killing a Muslim man unjustly". And due to that even the sympathiser, or their supporter, or the one who finds in his heart a tendency to lean towards them, we say to this person, "By Allah we will be your opponents in front of Allah, and you will be their partner in front of Allah, glorified and high is He".

The Prophet may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said "Whoever helps to kill a Muslim with half of a word - that is by a word - he will meet Allah and there will be written between his eyes "a despaired one from the mercy of Allah". And I ask Allah for safety and well-being.

I will finish by saying that: When we say this, it does not mean that there are no truthful ones amongst them and no such and such type of person amongst them, and it also does not mean that we label every single individual amongst them as a Kharijee. However we are speaking about this "khilafah" declaring it to be a false Kharijee khilafah, and it contains all the characteristics of the Khawaarij, and if not all of them then most of them. We ask Allah for safety and well-being.

And here I am ending with a message that I am sending to all of the youth in ISIS and to all those who sympathise with them, and to all those who are deceived by them: "You have heard these characteristics, so read the words of the people of knowledge. And do not think that you will escape on the day of Judgement. You will say (on that day) "I was deceived". I say to you "By Allah I am anxious about you that you come in front of Allah, glorified and high is He, and you say "Oh Lord I was deceived by slogans, oh Lord I was deceived by words" and Allah will say to you: "Did you not read my statement "Ask the people of knowledge if you do not know?" And when that happens what will you say to the Lord of all that exists, oh soldier of ISIS?

By Allah, I pity you that you will stand before Allah on the day of Judgement and you think that you are a Mujahid who has killed the Kuffar, and then you find us standing before you in front of Allah, we carrying the Quran which we have preserved with our hands and we carrying "There is no God worthy to be worshipped but Allah" and we carrying the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allah in our chests, and we

arguing against you in front of Allah... Oh soldier of "the state" I fear for you that you stand in front of Allah and you see thousands of Mujahideen in the path of Allah against you as your opponents, whose blood you have spilled and who you have made Takfeer upon without any right. We ask Allah for safety and well-being.

But if some have not been convinced with everything which we have mentioned and say, "I am not convinced. There are disagreements and fighting that took place from both the sides", I say to you "Ask ISIS today, right now, at this moment - ignore all what has happened in the past - will ISIS agree to stop fighting the Muslims? Will they agree for a truce? Will they be pleased with a reconciliation? They say that this is all impossible. The reason is because they consider us to be apostates and they believe that a truce with an apostate is forbidden, and it is not possible to accept a reconciliation, nor a halt for this, unless Allah glorified and high is He, has mercy on His slaves. I ask Allah the Living, the Sustainer, that we become excused in front of Allah the Lord of all that exists, on the day of the Judgement. And it is sufficient for everyone who listens to these words what the Prophet may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, has said - "The Khawaarij are the dogs of the Hellfire", "(they are) the most evil creation in the sight of Allah". And what is after the truth except misguidance?

Oh Allah, oh the ever Living, the Sustainer, we ask you by Your greatest name to not leave amongst them a single truthful person who is deceived by them except that you have guided him, oh the ever Living, the Sustainer, and do not leave amongst them a hardened Kharijee, except that you have relieved the Ummah and have sought for the Ummah revenge from him, and have sought revenge for the oppressed Muslims. Oh the one most Glorious and most Honourable, oh the ever Living, the Sustainer, verily we ask you for that, oh Allah, and respond to us..!!

**By Sheikh Abdullah Al Muhaysini**